This course will provide an introduction to the Caribbean area. It will include a description of the geography, an account of the historical background, and a glimpse at the variety of cultural beliefs and values, social institutions, and political economies that make the Caribbean people unique.

Prerequisite: Any Arts and Humanities or Social Science 1.0 or 0.5 Essay course.

Learning Outcomes: on successful completion of this course a student will be able to
- Understand the historical background to the formation of the states and colonies in the Caribbean area;
- Recognize the cultural diversity of the Caribbean;
- Identify and discuss some of the economic and political problems faced by Caribbean people in the 21st century.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sherrie Larkin   E-MAIL: slarkin@uwo.ca
OFFICE: SSC 3328
TEACHING ASSISTANT: TBD   E-MAIL:
BOOKS TO PURCHASE:
Other required readings are posted on the website. Click on the author’s name to access them.

MARKS WILL BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:
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<tr>
<td>Forums Participation</td>
<td>Weeks 1-6</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response Essay</td>
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<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forums Participation</td>
<td>Weeks 7-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>During final exam period</td>
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Course Structure:
This course has two components: the readings and assignment as outlined here; and an online component. Once you have purchased the required texts, you will have access to the readings. The online component will provide links to other students in the course, to additional information about the readings and assignment, and to current ideas as they develop out of our interaction on the forums.

Response Essay:
The purpose of the response essay is to encourage you to critically discuss and question the issues raised by the authors we have read. Key themes and learning notes are posted on the website before the beginning of each unit to help you approach the readings. Your Response Essay should be about 6 pages in length (double spaced) and is worth 30% of your course grade. You do not need to use any outside sources. You will find more detailed information about the Essay on the Web Site. Papers are to be submitted through the assignments tool in Owl no later than midnight of the due date. A penalty of 2% per week day may be deducted for late papers.
Note: This is an essay course; you must submit an essay and receive a mark of 50% or higher to pass this course.

Participation in the Forums:
The advantage of taking part in an online course is that it provides opportunities for all of us to interact on a regular basis through online discussions. You are required to make at least 2 substantial contributions to the Forums each week. The purpose of these online discussions is to make the learning process interactive and collaborative. Your discussion grade will be based on both the quantity and quality of your online participation. You will receive your first Forums evaluation at the end of Week 6 and your second one at the end of Week 12. Together, these two participation grades are worth 40% of your course grade.

Final Exam:
Your final exam will consist of a map test and some short essay questions. I will post possible questions two weeks prior to the exam to allow you time to think about how you want to construct your answers. The final exam is worth 30% of your course mark.
Contact Information:
Please feel free to email us anytime, with questions or comments. If you have not received a response within 24 hours of sending an email (Monday to Friday noon), you should assume it was not received and send it a second time.

Outline of Topics and Readings

**Week 1 What is the Caribbean?**


*Crick, Crack, Monkey*, by Merle Hodge. (Read as much as you can each week. This delightful novel will give you some sense of day-to-day life in the British Caribbean. We will look at it closer in the second half of the course.)

**Week 2 European Invasion**


**Week 3 Plantations, Sugar, and Slavery**


**Week 4 Opposition and Resistance**


**Week 5 Emancipation: The Key Issues of Land and Labour**


**Week 6 Political Economy**


**Week 7 Political Economy, Continued**


**Week 8 Societies and Families**

Merle Hodge. 1981. *Crick, Crack, Monkey*. (You should have read the book by now and the story helps us think about the issues raised in the readings for this week)


**Week 9 Religious Visions**


**Week 10 The Caribbean Spirit**


**Week 11 The Caribbean Spirit Continued**


**Week 12 The Caribbean In The Global Economy**


**General University Policies:**
All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation. These policies are outlined (with links to the full policies) at: http://anthropology.uwo.ca/undergraduate/course_information/academic_policies.html